

# Primary schools ban Muslim pupils from fasting during Ramadan with one saying it is a health risk for young children

*I am very pleased at this commonsense attitude. I am particularly pleased as one of the schools is my old school, and I know the other two from my youth. I expect pressure will be brought to bear on the head teachers but please, hold firm. The points made in your letter to parents is completely correct. These fasting children are trophies to bring credit to the family – their welfare is not paramount in many homes.*

[Thomas Gamuel Primary School](#) in Waltham Forest and Brook House Primary School in Haringey.

The letter, posted on 5pillars, a British Muslim publication, was today criticised by members of the Muslim community which said deciding whether a child should fast or not is the prerogative of their parent.

The Muslim Association of Britain said there were enough rules in place to protect the vulnerable from fasting without school's interference.'MAB ascertains that the final choice of whether or not to fast should be the right of the parents, who should in turn encourage their children to fast without forcing them to do so.'

Dr Omer El-Hamdoon, the President of MAB added parents ought to have the ultimate say in whether their child participates in the fast.

*From*